

INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

SUNNI WIN



Mohammed al-Khamlishi, Arab League envoy to Iraq speaks to reporters in Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, May 16, 2010. A recount of votes cast in Baghdad did not change the results of Iraq's March election, an electoral official said Sunday, preserving a narrow victory for the Sunni-backed candidate over the Shiite prime minister.

Read more on Page A8

SPORTS NEWS

GOING GREEN



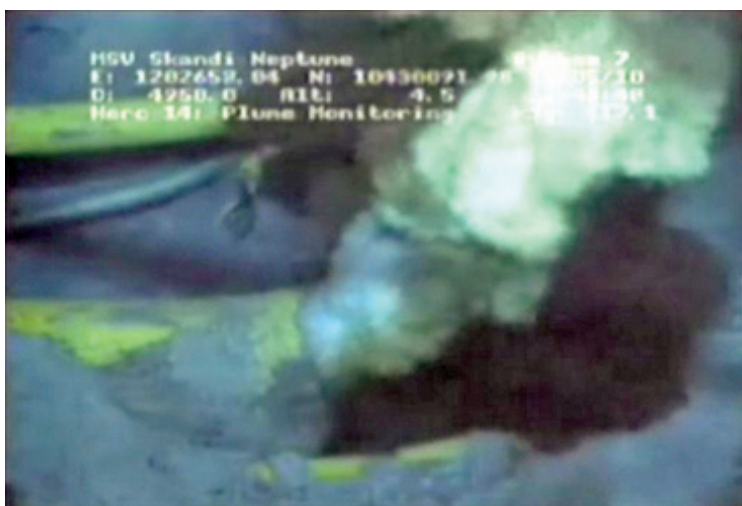
Boston Celtics forward Paul Pierce holds up one finger as he walks off the court after winning Game 1 of the NBA Eastern Conference basketball finals against the Orlando Magic 92-88 in Orlando, Fla., Sunday, May 16, 2010

Read more on Page A12

Price of a barrel of petroleum

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This image from a video released by BP PLC shows oil and gas spewing from a yellowish, broken pipe 5,000 feet below the surface.

Associated Press

BP: Mile-long tube sucking oil away from Gulf well

JASON DEAREN
JEFFREY COLLINS

Associated Press Writers

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Oil company engineers on Sunday finally succeeded in keeping some of the oil gushing from a blown well out of the Gulf of Mexico, hooking up a mile-long tube to funnel the crude into a tanker ship after more than three weeks of failures.

Millions of gallons of crude are already in the water, however, and researchers said the black ooze may have entered a major current that could carry it through the Florida Keys and around to the East Coast.

BP PLC engineers remotely guiding robot submersibles had worked since Friday to place the tube into a 21-inch pipe nearly a mile below the sea. After several setbacks, the contraption was hooked up successfully and funneling oil to a tanker ship. The oil giant said it will take days to figure out how much oil its contraption is sucking up.

The blown well has been leaking for more than three weeks, threatening sea life, commercial fishing and the coastal tourist industry from Louisiana to Florida. BP failed in several previous attempts to stop the leak, trying in vain to activate emergency valves and lowering a 100-ton container that got clogged with icy crystals.

Continued on Next Page

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Kagan unlikely to see GOP nomination block

JESSE J. HOLLAND

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)

— Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan is unlikely to face a Republican attempt to block a final vote on her confirmation but should expect difficult questions from lawmakers who will decide whether she deserves the lifetime appointment despite having no judicial experience, the Senate's second-ranking Republican said Sunday.

"The filibuster should be relegated to the extreme circumstances, and I don't think Elena Kagan represents that," said Sen. Jon Kyl, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. A filibuster is a legislative maneuver used in the Senate to delay a final vote on a measure.

Continued on Page 4



In this photo provided by ABC Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., the top Senate Judiciary Republican, is interviewed on ABC's This Week in Washington Sunday, May 16, 2010. Sessions said Sunday that Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan's testimony during her upcoming confirmation hearings will be a "big deal". "She has so little other record, it's going to be a big deal," said Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala.

Associated Press



Anti-government protesters fire home-made rockets to Thai soldier on Sunday May 16, 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand. The country will impose a curfew Sunday and send Red Cross workers to evacuate women and children from Bangkok's deadly protest zone where 25 people have been killed in four days of street battles between anti-government demonstrators and troops.

Associated Press

Read more on Page 6

new

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In this April 22, 2010 file photo obtained by The Associated Press shows the Deepwater Horizon oil platform burning following a massive explosion in the Gulf of Mexico. The federal agency responsible for ensuring that the Deepwater Horizon was operating safely before it exploded last month fell well short of its own policy that the rig be inspected at least once per month, an Associated Press investigation shows. In fact, the agency's inspection frequency on the Deepwater Horizon fell dramatically over the past five years, according to federal Minerals Management Service records. The rig blew up April 20, killing 11 people before sinking and triggering a massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

GULF WELL

Continued from Front Page

A researcher told The Associated Press on Sunday that computer models show the oil may have already seeped into a powerful water stream known as the loop

current, which could propel it into the Atlantic Ocean. A boat is being sent next week to collect samples and learn more.

William Hogarth, dean of the University of South Florida's College of Marine Science,

said one model shows oil has already entered the current, while a second shows the oil is 3 miles from it — still dangerously close. The models are based on weather, ocean current and spill data from the U.S. Navy and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, among other sources.

Hogarth said it's still too early to know what specific amounts of oil will make it to Florida, or what damage it might do to the sensitive Keys or beaches on Florida's Atlantic coast. He said claims by BP that the oil would be less damaging to the Keys after traveling over hundreds of miles from the spill site were not mollifying.

"This can't be passed off as 'it's not going to be a problem.'" Hogarth said.

"This is a very sensitive area. We are concerned with what happens in the Florida Keys."

BP had previously said the tube, if successful, was expected to collect most of the oil gushing from the well. On Sunday, the company said

it was too early to measure how much crude was being collected and acknowledged the tube was no panacea.

"It's a positive move, but let's keep in context," said Kent Wells, BP's senior vice president for exploration and production. "We're about shutting down the flow of oil from this well."

Crews will slowly ramp up how much oil the tube collects over the next few days. They need to move slowly because they don't want too much frigid seawater entering the pipe, which could combine with gases to form the same ice-like crystals that doomed the previous containment effort.

The first chance to choke off the flow for good should come in about a week. Engineers plan to shoot heavy mud into the crippled blowout preventer on top of the well, then permanently entomb the leak in concrete. If that doesn't work, crews also can shoot golf balls and knotted rope into the nooks and crannies

of the device to plug it, Wells said.

The final choice to end the leak is a relief well, but it is more than two months from completion. Still, scientists warned of the effects of the oil that has already leaked into the Gulf. Researchers said miles-long underwater plumes of oil discovered in recent days could poison and suffocate sea life across the food chain, with damage that could endure for a decade or more.

Researchers have found more underwater plumes of oil than they can count from the well, said Samantha Joye, a professor of marine sciences at the University of Georgia. She said careful measurements taken of one plume showed it stretching for 10 miles, with a 3-mile width.

The hazardous effects of the plume are twofold. Joye said the oil itself can prove toxic to fish swimming in the sea, while vast amounts of oxygen are also being sucked from the water by microbes that eat oil.







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States' budget woes hitting programs for kids hard

By DON BABWIN

Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO – Now the crisis is reaching the children.

In Arizona, a program that helped blind high school students care for themselves and find jobs is suspended. In South Carolina, all five state-run group homes for kids closed and a program that helped paroled youths get jobs is shuttered. And in Hawaii, a program to reduce child abuse and neglect was cut so much that two years after serving 4,000 families, it now serves 100.

All over the country, the financial crisis has forced states to make historic cuts to close what the National Conference of State Legislatures found was an overall budget gap of \$174.1 billion this fiscal year and has lawmakers looking to trim another \$89 billion next year. That means slashing services to the one population they've long protected: children.

The scope of the cuts is unprecedented, child advocates say. Hit are programs that addressed everything from childhood obesity to child abuse, and from prenatal care to preschool inspections. Some can't serve as many kids, while others are forced to deal with monthslong delays and many programs simply disappear.

"We were really taken aback at just the sheer magnitude of the cuts," said Linda Smith, executive director of the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, which released a study in January that found programs for children were cut or eliminated in more than 40 states.

And now, advocates worry all the gains they've made in improving children's lives will be lost and juvenile crime, child abuse, child neglect and other problems will climb.

"We will end up with a kid who is killed or will kill someone else," said Karen McLeod, president of Children and Family Services Association-N.C., an organization in North Carolina, where the state's mental health system was cut by \$155 million last year. "We are very, very worried about

what is going to happen."

Already, cutbacks to programs have led desperate parents to take increasingly desperate steps. They're leaving kids home alone or in households with a history of domestic violence. One mom in North Carolina camped out with her teenage son at a county facility for eight days, waiting for state officials to find him a bed in a state mental hospital. Salima Mabry's son is autistic and mentally disabled. Fearing that taking him home even for a few hours would mean having to start the waiting process over, the two slept in chairs, took sponge baths in a public restroom sink and ate food friends and family brought.

"You're in a sitting chair like you wait for the doctor," Mabry said, adding that the setup didn't suit her son. "He had a fit (and) they had to restrain him (because) he didn't like sitting in a room." Officials eventually found him a hospital bed.

The checks that agencies get from the state are about to get smaller or already have.

In Oklahoma, which has a \$1.2 billion budget shortfall, the health department is shuttering 17 of its 33 child-guidance centers where children with significant behavioral problems can be assessed.

"Some kids just won't get services," said Oklahoma State Department of Health Commissioner Terry Cline.

Oftentimes agencies are in limbo: They don't know how much state money they'll get, or how long it will take lawmakers to make funding decisions. Last year, Illinois' budget process dragged on so long two crisis nurseries were forced to close on the weekends and overnight — a potentially dangerous move given that some parents drop children off because of domestic violence or medical emergencies.

"People don't plan a crisis in their lives," said Nancy Ronquillo, president of Children's Home + Aid, a nonprofit group that provides services in Illinois and oversees two of the state's six crisis nurseries.

William Schultz is a single

parent who leaves his 4-year-old son at Mother House Crisis Nursery in Rockford, Ill., a couple times a week and said he doesn't know what he would do without it.

The 37-year-old dad is recovering from bacterial meningitis that caused a series of strokes largely affecting his left side. "I can't function as well as I did," said Schultz, an unemployed construction worker.

The center allows him to go to physical therapy and on job interviews. And since he cannot afford day care, the nursery is his son's only chance to interact with other kids.

Mother House is helping another parent get the dialysis she needs. Before learning about the nursery, the woman would skip treatments because she had nowhere to take her kids.

"She was risking her own life because there was no child care," said Robin Carlson, the nursery's program manager.

Carlson said gutting such programs will only cause problems to escalate to the point where they become medical emergencies and crimes.

"One way or another we're going to have to pay for these services," she said.

In South Carolina, Department of Juvenile Justice director William R. Byars Jr. worries that loss of about \$20 million in state funding will add up to an invitation to street gangs.

"One of the things gangs use to draw kids in is that they can give them a job," said Byars, of a now-defunct training program for juvenile parolees. "The first job offer they get is with the gangs, on a street corner (and) we got them into legitimate businesses ... in stores, mechanic shops, flipping hamburgers."

And in Hawaii, State Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland said the reduction in funding from \$15 million years ago to \$1.3 million this year for Healthy Start, her state's nationally recognized child-abuse prevention program, will cause more children to be abused.

"We have a 99.8 percent success rate in having all those



In this photo taken April 27, 2010, Robin Carlson, the program director at the Mother House Crisis Nursery, holds Jesus outside the facility in Rockford, Ill. State budget woes are causing hardships for agencies and programs that serve children. Carlson and others say that gutting programs that help kids and their parents will only cause problems to escalate to the point where they become medical emergencies and crimes. (

Associated Press

families (in the home visitation their children," Chun Oakland program) not abuse or neglect said. □

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Supreme Court nominee Solicitor General Elena Kagan, left, walks in for her meeting with Sen. Arlen Specter, D-Pa., on Capitol Hill in Washington Thursday, May 13, 2010.

NOMINATION BLOCK

Continued from Front Page

The committee chairman, Sen. Patrick Leahy, said he hoped to have Kagan on the bench this summer, succeeding retiring Justice John Paul Stevens well ahead of the new term that begins in October.

Associated Press

Republican senators are placing great weight on her testimony in determining the fate of President Barack Obama's second nominee for the high court. At issue is her lack of a judicial paper trail. Kagan is now solicitor general, the top government

lawyer who argues the administration's cases before the Supreme Court, and was dean of Harvard Law School. But she has never been a judge.

"She has so little other record, this is going to be a big deal," said Sen. Jeff Sessions, the committee's top Republican. "It's so important how she testifies."

Republicans want to know "whether she will lay her political beliefs aside when she's deciding cases and decide those cases strictly based upon the facts and the law of the case," Kyl said. "That may be a little difficult in her case because she's never had to do that before as a judge, and so it's more difficult to know whether she is actually able to set her views aside. But that will be the primary issue."

Kyl also said he wants answers on her thoughts about the "enemy combatant" designation used for terrorism suspects. The Senate's Republican leader, Mitch McConnell, said he wants to know about Kagan's thoughts on campaign finance and free speech.

Democratic Sen. Chuck Schumer said Kagan's time at Harvard, as well as her work as a professor and Clinton White House adviser, should suffice. "She doesn't have judicial experience. But she has a lot of experience, a lot of practical experience. She's hardly a blank slate," Schumer said.

Leahy said he would meet this week with Sessions to decide when to begin the hearings for Kagan. Leahy noted that Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Sonia Sotomayor both were nominated in the spring and confirmed long before October. "If we could follow a schedule roughly like that, we'll be done this summer," he said.

Roberts was nominated by President George W. Bush. Sotomayor was Obama's first nominee.

Sessions and other Republicans said they planned to question Kagan about Harvard's barring military recruiters over the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gay troops while she was law dean. Republican senators have said the decision — which Sessions said came about because of Kagan's "deep personal belief" that the ban on gays serving openly in the military was wrong — casts doubt on Kagan's fitness for the bench.

"This is no little-bitty matter," Sessions said. "She would not let them come to the area that does the recruiting on the campus. ... This is not acceptable. It was a big error."

Former Republican House Speaker Newt Gingrich called Kagan "antimilitary" and urged Obama to withdraw the nomination.

That drew a sharp response from Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who batted the remarks away as "nonsense" and "Gingrich hyperbole."

"I would hope that no one would fall for that," said Feinstein, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. To Leahy, the complaints are "sound and fury signifying nothing." He said conservative interest groups are trying to come up with an issue that could possibly slow down Kagan's confirmation.

"I realize you have so many special interest groups on the far right or the far left who have points," Leahy said. "Ignore those. We ought to make up our own mind. We should be bright enough to do it."

Sessions said senators should tread carefully when it comes to questions about a nominee's personal life. "I don't believe that is a fundamental judgment call on whether a person can be a good judge or not," he said.

What's important, Sessions said, is whether they can "restrain their personal political views and follow the law faithfully and serve under the Constitution? That's the fundamental test in personal integrity. So those are questions that go to the heart of whether a person will be an able judge or not," he said.

Former first lady Laura Bush said Kagan's nomination was great. "I like to have women on the Supreme Court," Mrs. Bush said.

Her husband, former President George W. Bush, nominated White House counsel Harriet Miers to the high court. She withdrew her nomination after running into opposition from conservatives.

Mrs. Bush said she would be glad to have three women on the court, saying it would make a difference. "I just like women to be represented in all parts of American political and civic life," she said. If confirmed, Kagan would join Sotomayor and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Sessions and Leahy appeared on ABC television's "This Week." Laura Bush and Gingrich were on "Fox News Sunday." Feinstein and Kyl spoke on CBS's "Face The Nation," while Schumer and McConnell were interviewed on NBC's "Meet the Press." □

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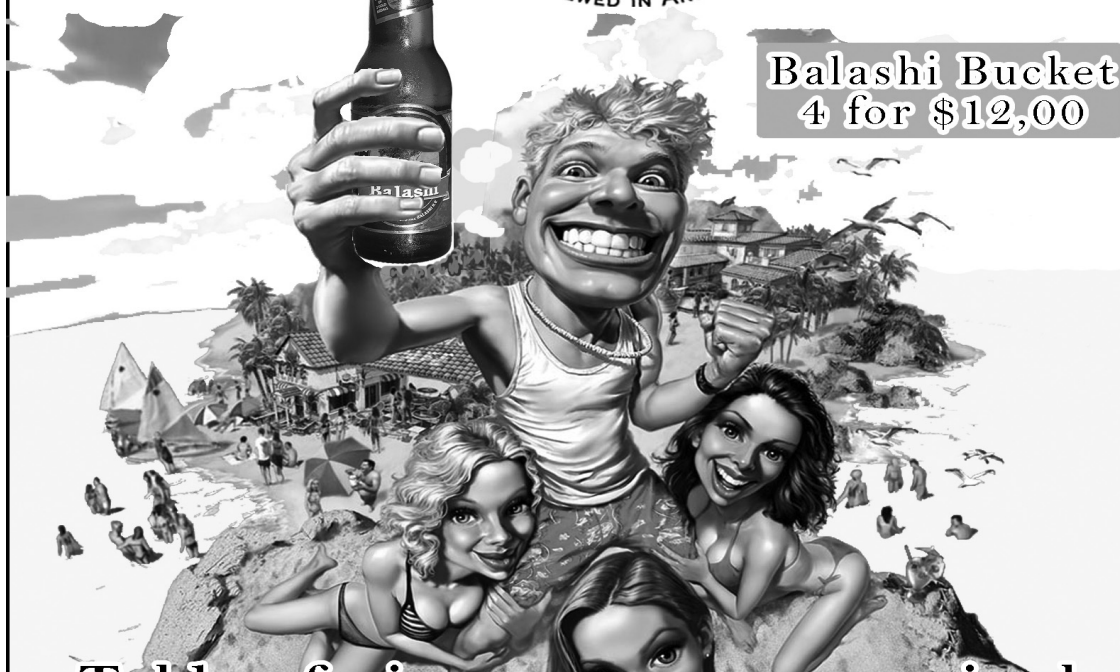


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School district agrees to rehire fired teachers

ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press Writer

CENTRAL FALLS, Rhode Island (AP) — A school district that gained the support of President Barack Obama for promoting accountability after it fired all its teachers from a struggling school announced on Sunday it had reached an agreement with the union to return the current staffers to their jobs.

The two sides said a transformation plan for Central Falls High School in the state of Rhode Island for the coming school year would allow the roughly 87 teachers, guidance counselors, librarians and other staffers who were to lose their jobs at the end of this year to return without having to reapply. More than 700 people had already applied for the positions. The agreement calls for a longer school day, more after-school tutoring and other changes.

“What this means is that they have come to an agreement about a reform effort and that will change the quality” of the education program at Central Falls, said Rhode Island Education Commissioner Deborah Gist, who applauded both sides for working together. The board of trustees overseeing the school system in Central Falls,

one of the poorest communities in the state, voted in February to fire the staff of one of the state’s worst-performing schools. The school was under a mandate from the state to make improvements, and it opted for the mass firings after a breakdown in talks with teachers about other reforms that would have required more work, some without extra pay.

Obama, during a national address on education in March, said the firings were an example of the need for accountability over student performance. “So if a school is struggling, we have to work with the principal and the teachers to find a solution,” Obama said. “We’ve got to give them a chance to make meaningful improvements. But if a school continues to fail its students year after year after year, if it doesn’t show any sign of improvement, then there’s got to be a sense of accountability.”

He continued: “And that’s what happened in Rhode Island last week at a chronically troubled school, when just 7 percent of 11th-graders passed state math tests — 7 percent.”

Details of the agreement were to be released following a ratification vote by Central Falls teachers at a meeting Monday. The union and district had been

working with a mediator since March.

“Both the school district and the union agree that while this has been a difficult process for everyone involved, the negotiations resulted in a newfound appreciation for shared responsibility, and a solid commitment to bring lasting solutions that will improve teaching and learning at Central Falls High School,” said a joint statement from the union and the district.

Under the deal, teachers will need to recommit to their jobs and interview with the new principal. Other changes aimed at increasing student achievement include: a new evaluation system designed to inform



This March 3, 2010 file photo shows Central Falls High School in Central Falls, R.I., where the superintendent announced in February 2010 that all the teachers would be fired at the end of the school year. Central Falls’ school board voted last month to fire Central Falls High School’s faculty in a desperate move to improve student performance.

Associated Press

teaching and learning, and targeted and embedded professional development. Central Falls Superintendent Fran Gallo said she was pleased to be welcoming

the staff back. She said that among the changes would be the reassignment of the high school principal and assistant principal to the middle school. □



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Thai govt. rejects talks, defends deadly crackdown

CHRIS BLAKE

Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK (AP) — Anti-government unrest boiling over in downtown Bangkok spread to other areas of the capital and Thailand Sunday as the military defended its use of force in a crackdown that has left 30 civilians dead in four days. Thai leaders flatly rejected protesters' demands that the United Nations intercede to end the chaos.

Towering plumes of black smoke hung over city streets where protesters set fire to tires, fired homemade rockets and threw gasoline bombs at soldiers who used rubber bullets and live ammunition to pick off rioters who approached their lines. Army sharpshooters crouched behind sandbags carefully taking aim and firing to keep attackers at bay.

Leaders of the protesters, who have dubbed themselves Red Shirts, said they wanted talks mediated by the United Nations, provided the government agreed to an immediate cease-fire and pulled its troops back.

Government spokesman Panitan Wattanayagorn, however, said a pause was unnecessary since troops were "not using weapons to crack down on civilians." The government maintains it is targeting only armed "terrorists" among the demonstrators.

Authorities insisted they would continue the crackdown aimed at choking off the Red Shirts, who have occupied a 1-square-mile protest zone — barricaded by tires and bamboo spikes — in one of Bangkok's ritziest areas since early April. The protesters are demanding that Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva resign immediately, dissolve Parliament and call new elections.

The political conflict is Thailand's deadliest and most prolonged in decades, and each passing day of violence deepens divides in this nation of 65 million — a key U.S. ally and Southeast Asia's second-largest economy. Thailand has long been considered a democratic oasis in Southeast Asia, and the unrest has shaken faith in its ability to restore



Thai soldiers take up position while confronting with anti-government protesters in Bangkok, Thailand Sunday, May 16, 2010. Thai authorities say they plan to impose curfew in parts of Bangkok that have been wracked by clashes between Red Shirt protesters and the army.

Associated Press

and maintain stability.

Soldiers have encircled the core protest site and cut off utilities to the area, which was largely free of violence most of Sunday. Protest leaders told women and children with them to move to a Buddhist temple compound within the zone. The areas between the site and the military's perimeter have become a no-man's land where gunshots and blasts can regularly be heard. But some of the worst clashes Sunday were behind the military cordon — an indication the unrest was not contained within the protest area and was spreading.

In one working-class neighborhood, several hundred demonstrators gathered under an expressway overpass and in small side streets, where they sheltered between clashes with nearby soldiers.

There were also reports of scattered unrest outside the capital. A military bus was burned in the northern city of Chiang Mai and protesters demonstrated in the northeastern towns of Nongkhai and Udon Thani to defy the government's state of emergency, which bans gatherings of more than five people.

The decree, which gives the army broad powers to restore order, was extended Sunday to

22 of Thailand's 75 provinces, up from 17.

According to government figures, 59 people have died and more than 1,600 have been wounded since the Red Shirts began their protests in March.

The toll includes 30 civilians killed and 232 injured since Thursday in fighting that has turned parts of central Bangkok into a battle ground. Army spokesman Col. Sansern Kaewkamnerd held a nationally televised news conference late Sunday to defend the military's use of force, showing images that appeared to show protesters firing guns and grenades at soldiers, and in one case trying to light the diesel tank of a government truck. He said the sharpshooters were there only to provide cover for security forces on the ground and were not shooting arbitrarily.

About 5,000 people are believed camped in the protest area, down from about 10,000 before fighting started Thursday. The violence ignited after the army started forming a cordon around the protesters' encampment and a sniper shot and seriously wounded a Red Shirt leader, a former army general who was their military strategist.

After night fell Sunday, heavy gunfire and sporadic

explosions echoed for more than three hours near a park that abuts the Red Shirts' encampment. It was not clear who was doing the shooting, but the sound appeared to be that of automatic rifles being fired rapidly, apparently in retaliation to intermittent gunfire by the Red Shirts.

The Red Shirts, many who hail from the impoverished north and northeast, say Abhisit's coalition government came to power through manipulation of the courts and the backing of the powerful military, and that it symbolizes a national elite indifferent to their plight. Nattawut Saikua, one of the protest leaders, told reporters and supporters on Sunday that the Red Shirts were willing to negotiate immediately with the government.

"What's urgent is to stop the deaths of people. Political demands can wait," he said. Nattawut said the U.N. must serve as a mediator in the talks because, "we don't see any (other) neutral and just organizations."

Panitan, the government spokesman, said there is no need for the U.N. to get involved in the internal matters of a sovereign nation. He said all groups using weapons to threaten security forces must "stop their actions immediately." □

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16 killed after attack on Somali parliament

MOHAMED SHEIKH NOR

Associated Press Writer

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Islamic insurgents attacked a building in the Somali capital where parliament was meeting Sunday for the first time this year, pounding the area with mortars. At least 16 civilians were killed in the fighting that ensued, a medical official said.

No lawmakers were killed or wounded in the attack, police spokesman Abdullahi Hassan Barise said.

Previous sessions of parliament had been postponed since December because of threats from al-Shabab, an al-Qaida-linked militant group in the lawless Horn of Africa nation.

A number of lawmakers have fled the 550-member parliament in Mogadishu and resettled in neighboring countries because

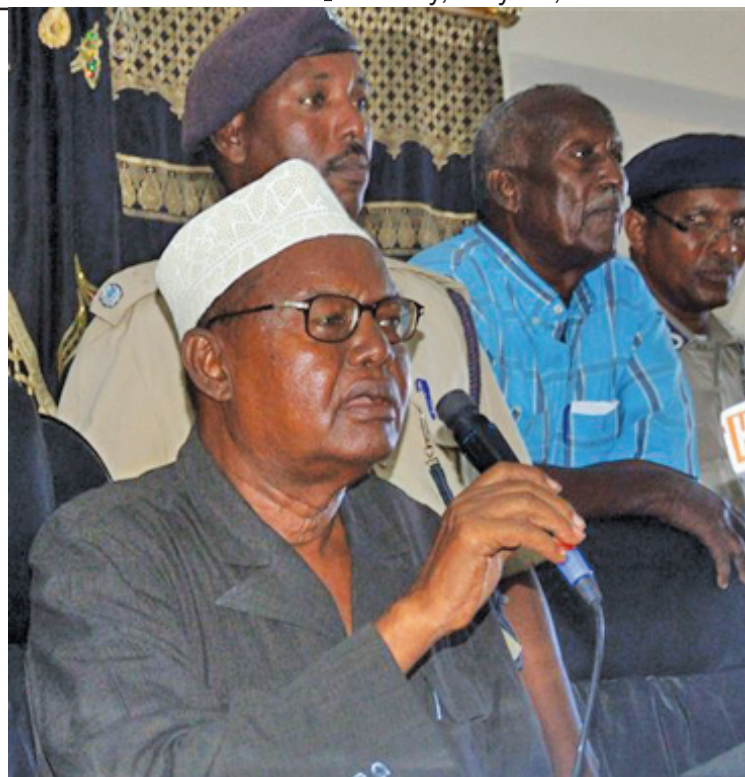
of insecurity.

Militants have killed nine legislators over the last few years for supporting the Western-backed government of Somali President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed. The government has been unable to provide security for them because it only controls a small part of Mogadishu.

Somalia has not had an effective parliament or government for the past 19 years after warlords overthrew longtime dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991.

On Sunday, government forces backed by African Union troops fought back, pounding the insurgents' positions with mortars.

Ali Muse, the head of Mogadishu's ambulance service, said his staff counted 16 bodies. Another 31 wounded people were taken to hospitals around Mogadishu.



The newly appointed acting speaker Haji Shugri Sheikh Ahmed speaks after he was elected as the new acting speaker of the Somali parliament in Mogadishu, Somalia, Sunday May 16, 2010. A medical official says 16 civilians have been killed during fighting in the Somali capital between Islamic insurgents and government forces backed by African Union troops. The fighting Sunday began when the insurgents attacked a building where parliament was meeting for the first time this year, says Abdullahi Hassan Barise, the police spokesman.

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Iraq recount affirms win for Sunni-backed bloc



Mohammed al-Khamlishi, Arab League envoy to Iraq, center, Qassim al-Abboudi, a senior official with Iraq's High Electoral Commission (IHEC), right, appear at a press conference in Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, May 16, 2010. A recount of votes cast in Baghdad did not change the results of Iraq's March election, an electoral official said Sunday, preserving a narrow victory for the Sunni-backed candidate over the Shiite prime minister.

Associated Press

SAMEER N. YACIOUB

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's electoral commission affirmed on Sunday the narrow victory of a Sunni-backed bloc in the March vote after a partial recount undercut the Shiite prime minister's claims of fraud in the tally.

The result was a setback for Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who came in second to former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi by a small margin. But his alliance with another Shiite bloc still gives him a strong chance of holding on to power for another four years. "I hope that all political blocs are satisfied now that the electoral process was honest and all allegations of fraud and forgery were totally incorrect," electoral commission spokesman Qassim al-Abboudi told reporters after the results of a recount of votes for the capital Baghdad were announced.

"According to the law, political blocks and candidates

can appeal these results but we hope that no one will do that," al-Abboudi said.

The recount as well as other challenges to the March 7 election result have prevented the seating of the new 325-member parliament and raised fears that the extended period of political bickering will give rise to a new wave of violence as insurgents try to exploit the political vacuum as U.S. troops prepare to go home.

Hadi Jalo, a political analyst in Baghdad, said al-Maliki's goal in demanding the recount was not to change the total, but to stall so he could work out an agreement with his Shiite allies to stay in power and sideline Allawi.

"Al-Maliki wanted more time to strengthen his coalition with the Iraqi National Alliance and also to distract Allawi and limit his movements toward other blocs," Jalo said.

Al-Maliki's State of Law alliance lost the election, taking home 89 seats to 91 for the bloc headed by Allawi, a secular Shiite supported by the country's minority Sunni community.

But neither coalition won the 163 seats required to govern outright.

Baghdad province accounts for so many parliament seats that a significant change in the vote tally could have tilted the overall results in al-Maliki's favor.

Though the results were a setback for al-Maliki, they did not hand Allawi the mandate

to form the next government. Instead, al-Maliki now appears to be in an even better position than he was roughly two weeks ago when the recount began. His coalition hammered out an agreement with another Shiite bloc, the Iranian-backed Iraqi National Alliance.

Together, the two are only four seats short of needed majority.

If the already-bickering coalition holds together, it is almost certain to form the next government, possibly cutting out Allawi's list altogether and fueling Shiite anger that could lead to more sectarian violence.

The prime minister's coalition appeared Sunday to be weighing its next move. A State of Law spokesman, Khalid al-Assadi, said the bloc was considering whether to appeal.

But government spokesman, Ali al-Dabbagh of al-Maliki's State of Law, said on Al-Arabiya TV that they would accept the results "for the sake of starting the formation of the government."

Allawi's coalition welcomed the recount.

"We are happy with the results that are compatible to the previous ones," said Maysoun al-Damlouji, a spokeswoman for the Allawi's bloc.

The election results must still be ratified by the Supreme Court and other challenges that have delayed the formation of a new government also need to be resolved. □

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Brazil's leader seeks nuclear compromise with Iran

ALI AKBAR DAREINI

Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Brazil's president met with Iranian leaders Sunday to try to broker a compromise in the international standoff over Tehran's nuclear program, even as the U.S. says new sanctions are the only way to force Iran's cooperation.

Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva is trying to use Brazil's friendly relations with Iran to show it can be a fair, neutral broker in the escalating dispute. Since evidence of a clandestine Iranian nuclear program first emerged in 2003, negotiations with world powers and visits by U.N. inspectors have failed to persuade the U.S. and its allies that Iran is not pursuing a weapons capability.

Washington has taken a hard line, and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said last week that the Brazilian leader's efforts might be "the last chance" to avoid sanctions.

Silva is reportedly trying to revive a U.N.-backed proposal in which Iran would ship its stockpile of enriched uranium abroad to be processed further and returned as fuel rods for a medical research reactor.

"It's more difficult for someone who has nuclear weapons to ask someone not to develop nuclear weapons," Silva said in an interview with Al-Jazeera TV on Saturday. "It's easier for someone who does not carry nuclear

weapons, like myself, to ask for that."

Like Brazil, Turkey is trying to bring Tehran back to the negotiating table. Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan suggested Sunday before departing for Tehran to join talks on Iran's nuclear program that the uranium swap could take place in Turkey.

"We will find the opportunity to start the swap process. That is why I am leaving," he told reporters. "If the swap is going to take place in Turkey, we thought we should be there too. We have heard that a clause is being added."

"God willing, we will find the opportunity to overcome the problem," he said.

On Sunday, Silva met with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, but the leaders did not make any public statement about the nuclear issue.

Instead the Iranians focused on mutual relations and praised Brazil for maintaining its independence in a world dominated by a few countries.

"Iran and Brazil are two emerging powers and many of the world's future issues will depend on how these two countries interact," Ahmadinejad said. "Brazil and Iran belong to the future while the system of domination (led by U.S.) belongs to the past."

Iran maintains its nuclear work is only for peaceful purposes, like energy production. But the U.N. nuclear monitoring agency says Iran has not fully cooperated with its investigation to determine whether it has a military dimension.

The U.N. plan, first proposed in October, would deprive Iran of stocks of enriched uranium that it could process to the higher levels of enrichment needed in weapons production. The material returned to Iran in the form of fuel rods could not be processed beyond its lower, safer levels, which are suitable for use in the Tehran research reactor.

Iran initially accepted the deal but then balked and proposed changes rejected by the world powers negotiating with Tehran: Germany and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, which are the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China.

On Friday, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Iran will continue to defy



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, right, welcomes his Brazilian counterpart Luis Inacio Lula da Silva during an official welcoming ceremony at the presidency in Tehran, Iran, Sunday, May 16, 2010.

Associated Press

demands to prove its nuclear program is peaceful unless it is hit with a new round of U.N. sanctions.

"Every step along the way has demonstrated clearly to the world that Iran is not participating in the international arena in the way that we had asked them to do and that they continued to pursue their nuclear program," Clinton told reporters.

She also predicted that Silva's mediation effort would not succeed.

Khamenei, who has the final say in all state matters, said the "fuss" made by the U.S. ahead of Silva's visit showed that "some powers and countries are opposed to cooperation between Iran and Brazil" because it could change the world order, according to state television.

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Metal legend Ronnie James Dio dead at 67



FILE - In this July 7, 2007 file photo, Ronnie James Dio performs with British heavy metal group 'Heaven and Hell' during the 41th Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland. Dio, the metal god who replaced Ozzy Osbourne in Black Sabbath and later piloted the bands Heaven & Hell and Dio, died Sunday, May 16, 2010, according to his wife and manager. He was 67.

(AP Photo/Keystone, Sandro Campardo, File)

By **WAYNE PARRY**,
Associated Press Writer
Ronnie James Dio, whose soaring vocals, poetic lyrics and mythic tales of a never-ending struggle between good

and evil broke new ground in heavy metal, died Sunday, according to a statement from his wife and manager. He was 67.

Dio revealed last summer that he was suffering from stomach cancer shortly after wrapping up a tour in Atlantic City, N.J., with the latest incarnation of Black Sabbath, under the name Heaven And Hell.

"Today my heart is broken," Wendy Dio wrote on the singer's site, adding he died at 7:45 a.m. "Many, many friends and family were able to say their private goodbyes before he peacefully passed away. "Ronnie knew how much he was loved by all," Wendy Dio continued. "We so appreciate the love and support that you have all given us ... Please know he loved you all and his music will live on forever."

The statement was confirmed by Los Angeles publicist Maureen O'Connor. Dio was being treated at a Houston

hospital, according to his site. Though Dio had recently undergone his seventh chemotherapy treatment, he was hopeful to perform again. Earlier this month, Heaven And Hell canceled its summer tour, but Dio did not view being sidelined as a permanent thing. "Wendy, my doctors and I have worked so hard to make it happen for all of you, the ones we care so much about, that this setback could be devastating, but we will not let it be," he said in a statement. "With your continued love and support, we ... will carry on and thrive. There will be other tours, more music, more life and much more magic." Dio rose to fame in 1975 as the first lead singer of Rainbow, the heavy metal band put together by guitarist Ritchie Blackmore, who had just quit Deep Purple.

Dio then replaced legendary vocalist Ozzy Osbourne in Black Sabbath in 1980

with the critically acclaimed album "Heaven And Hell," considered by many critics to be one of the finest heavy metal albums of all time. His on-again, off-again tenure with Black Sabbath touched off an intense debate among fans as to which singer was the true essence of the band — a discussion that lasted until his death.

He also enjoyed a successful solo career with his self-titled band, Dio, in between his three stints with Black Sabbath (1980-82; 1992; and 2007-2009, when the band toured as Heaven And Hell, to differentiate it from Osbourne-led versions of Sabbath).

Many of his most memorable songs revolved around the struggle between good and evil, including his signature tune "Heaven And Hell." He also drew heavily on medieval imagery in songs like "Neon Knights," "Killing The Dragon" and "Stargazer." □

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Thousands of nonprofits may lose tax-exempt status

By MOLLY HOTTLE,
Associated Press Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa — More than 200,000 small nonprofits across the nation are days away from losing their tax-exempt status because they

haven't filed a new form with the Internal Revenue Service. Many of these groups already operate on razor-thin budgets and some worry an unexpected tax bill could force organizations to close.

"The nonprofits in your backyards, some of them are going to be gone," said Suzanne Coffman, a spokeswoman for GuideStar, which tracks data on nonprofits.

It's most likely the nonprofits

aren't aware of the Monday deadline that only applies to groups that report \$25,000 or less in income, excluding churches. Those organizations may not find out until Jan. 1, 2011, when they're notified they have to pay taxes on donations they thought were exempt. And it could be months before their nonprofit status is restored.

Congress required the form, called a 990-N, when it amended the tax code three years ago and groups with a fiscal year ending Dec. 31 had until Monday to meet the deadline. The Urban Institute's National Center for Charitable Statistics, which conducts economic and social policy research, estimated Friday that 214,000 nonprofit organizations haven't filed the form as required.

Tom Pollak, program director for the center, said organizations that lose their tax-exempt status are no longer eligible to receive tax-deductible donations and are not likely to be awarded grants.

Donors who give to the organizations that lose their status will be able to receive tax-deductions on gifts until January because the revocations won't be public until then.

In Iowa, the Warren County Historical Society was among more than 2,700 small nonprofits that hadn't submitted the form. The group's president, Linda Beatty, said she'd never heard of a 990-N until contacted by The Associated Press.

Beatty said she would scramble to get their application in, but if the society lost its nonprofit status, donations likely would drop and members would struggle to pay taxes until they could get the situation resolved. The group maintains a small museum and historical library in Indianola, south of

Des Moines.

Stephen Baldassare, president of the Catwalk Theatre Guild in Arvada, Colo., said loss of its tax exemption would have endangered the college scholarships his group awards annually to two high school students and limited other programs.

"It's huge giving those scholarships," he said. "We'd also have to figure out how to do the rest of the functions we do. We would have to change how we bring in money."

In West Chester, Pa., the A Cappella Pops performing group also hadn't heard about the deadline.

Money already is a problem for the 40-member singing group, marketing director Bruce Koepcke said, and would have been far worse if donations dropped or the group faced a big tax bill. He said tax-exempt donations make up 25 percent of the group's revenue.

"We break even in good years," Koepcke said. "We can't afford to lose one iota of funding."

Bobby Zarin, an Internal Revenue Service director who works with non-profits, said the agency sent out press releases and letters to more than 500,000 nonprofit organizations to get the word out about the 990-N forms. She didn't know why the change was catching so many groups by surprise.

"I can honestly say this is the most extensive outreach we have done," Zarin said.

Ultimately, Zarin said the requirement would be helpful because it would eliminate defunct organizations from IRS records and provide more transparency for the public.

"It will give us a much cleaner list of organizations that actually do exist," Zarin said. "More organizations will be filing, so more information will be available." □

Stock market swings as traders question recovery

By TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Stock traders are worried that what happens in Europe won't stay in Europe.

Countries including Greece and Spain are being forced to make budget cuts because of soaring debts. Investors are concerned that this new frugality could slow not just the European economic recovery, but the global rebound as well. So they're shrugging off signs of a sustained U.S. turnaround and are instead taking cues from developments abroad.

Investors are focusing some of their concern on the euro, the currency shared by 16 European countries. Sagging confidence in Europe's ability to solve its economic problems has sent the euro plunging against the dollar. Investors believe that the dollar's strength combined with weaker growth in Europe will reduce demand for U.S. exports and hurt the recovery that U.S. companies, particularly manufacturers, have been enjoying.

"Manufacturing has been doing very well. Exports have been doing very well. And if there is any fear that the global engine is going to slow, even at the margins, it creates uncertainty," said Quincy Krosby, chief market strategist at Prudential Financial.

It's clear that traders have lost some of their swagger. The Dow Jones industrial average posted a 14-month gain of 71.2 percent from March 2009. It's down 5.2 percent since late April. The Dow tumbled 163 points Friday after the euro fell to a 19-month low against the dollar. The market still closed higher for the week after falling in the two previous weeks, but there was no sense of relief on Wall Street.

As they sold Friday, traders looked past upbeat reports on retail sales and industrial production. The reason: They make their moves based on what they expect the economy and corporate profits will be six to nine months in the future. Investors are

now factoring slower growth in Europe, and perhaps a recession, into stock prices. Good news from the U.S. economy last month is now almost immaterial in traders' eyes.

And, if there are any signs of weakness in U.S. economic reports, that will likely be seen as an bad omen and set off more selling.

Investors also are concerned about the stock market itself, especially the return of the kind of volatility seen during the financial crisis. The Dow has posted swings of more than 100 points in 11 of the past 14 days. Analysts say the bumps will continue until it becomes clearer how Europe will manage its debt problems. Early enthusiasm over last week's nearly \$1 trillion rescue plan for Greece and other countries has faded.

Many traders are predicting that the ride will continue to be rough. The Chicago Board Options Exchange's Volatility Index — called the market's fear gauge — is up 79 percent since April 26, when the Dow closed at its 2010 high of 11,205. The rise in the volatility index means investors are forecasting more drops in the market.

"At the end of the day it's always about confidence," Krosby said. "We tend to look at our markets as the barometer of that confidence."

The stock market's swings started just as individual investors were returning to the market after fleeing in 2008 during the financial crisis.

"This is only lending to the skepticism that individual investors have," said Mark Luschini, chief investment strategist at Janney Montgomery Scott.

But John Silvia, chief economist at Wells Fargo, said the market's ups and downs aren't a big worry just yet. He said investors are simply struggling to determine how problems in Europe might slow a rebound.

"The market is trying to figure out what is the pace of that recovery," he said. That makes for messy trading. "It's like the great wild car ride." □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



NBA Playoffs

Celtics smother Magic 92-88, take 1-0 series lead

By ANTONIO GONZALEZ

Associated Press Writer

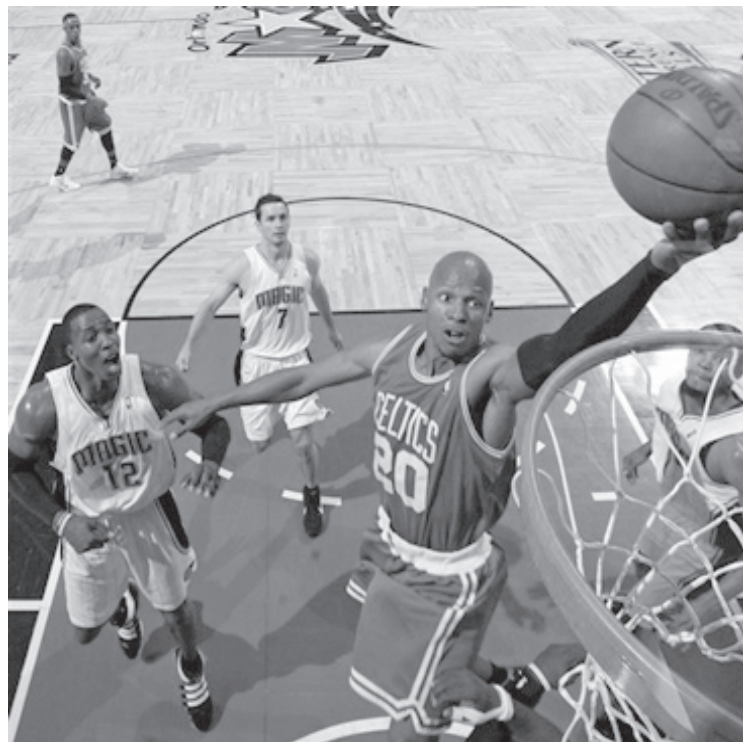
ORLANDO, Fla. — The hair is a little grayer. The ankles and knees no longer so sturdy. Even with a roster full of aging superstars, the Boston Celtics are still standing tall.

Too old to chase a title? Not these days.

Ray Allen scored 25 points, Paul Pierce had 22 and the Celtics used smothering defense to beat the Orlando Magic 92-88 on Sunday in the Eastern Conference finals opener.

Hampered by injuries, the Celtics literally limped their way through parts of the regular season. All that seems a distant memory now.

"I honestly say we lost ourselves," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "I think we've found ourselves again."



Ray Allen goes up for a shot past Orlando Magic's Dwight Howard (12), J.J. Redick (7), and Rashard Lewis, right, during the first half in Game 1 of the NBA Eastern Conference basketball finals in Orlando, Fla., Sunday, May 16, 2010.

Associated Press

Rasheed Wallace added 13 points as the Celtics built a 20-point lead, then held on late to snap Orlando's 14-game winning streak. They held the Magic to 41 percent shooting — 22 percent from 3-point range — in displaying that rough and tough defense that was once their staple.

"There were stretches in the season, we know each other so well now, where we were becoming less patient with each other," Allen said.

"We were getting on each other a little too much. We can take it, but we respected each other.

"When we started the playoffs, we said teams are going to hit us, they're going to attack us. But when somebody scores on us, which they will, we go get the ball out and come back."

Vince Carter had 23 points

and Jameer Nelson finished with 20 for Orlando, which cut the lead to two in the final seconds but simply ran out of time, looking rusty after a six-day layoff. Dwight Howard was limited to 13 points and 12 rebounds, nowhere near the dominant force the Magic need to win a title.

Game 2 in the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night in Orlando.

"I don't think it was rusty. Just anxious," Howard said. "We dug ourselves a hole, and it was tough to get back from." Two years removed from an NBA title, the revived Celtics might be a little slower than their paralyzing defense of old. But, healthy again, maybe not as much as some once thought.

The Celtics built a 15-point lead in the second quarter and watched it fizzle with Howard on the bench. Backup Marcin Gortat had two layups and a dunk to help the Magic end the half with Boston ahead 41-32.

Nelson had two quick 3-pointers and another jumper to start the third, moving the Magic within three points. Then it all unraveled.

The Celtics went on a 22-5 run later in the quarter to go ahead 65-45, and a crowd littered with blue and white T-shirts — deafening at times with noise clickers and claps — was silenced. But the Magic rallied late to cut the lead to three with 26 seconds remaining in the fourth on a dunk by Howard.

After Pierce made two free throws, Carter was fouled driving to the hoop. He made the first, then missed the second intentionally as Nelson swooped in for the tip to make it 90-88. But Allen followed with two free throws with 6.1 seconds left to seal the Celtics' victory. □

MOTORSPORTS

Busch wins Sprint Cup race at Dover



Kyle Busch does a burnout after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series' Autism Speaks 400 auto race, Sunday, May 16, 2010, in Dover, Del.

Associated Press

DAN GELSTON

AP Sports Writer

DOVER, Del. (AP) — Kyle Busch won the Sprint Cup Series race at Dover International Speedway a day after he won the Nationwide Series race.

Busch just missed a tripleheader sweep on the one-mile concrete track. He was in position to win the Trucks Series race on Friday but ran out of gas at the end. He easily won Saturday's second-

tier series race and raced about 800 miles in three days.

On Sunday, Busch swapped the lead with Jimmie Johnson throughout most of the 400-mile race. Johnson, the four-time defending Cup champion, was hit with a late penalty for speeding on pit road.

Johnson, who won both Dover races last year, finished 16th after having the dominant car most of the race. Johnson led 225 laps to Busch's 131.

"I ran my guts out trying to pass him," Johnson said. "It's unfortunate we didn't have a chance there at the end."

Jeff Burton was second and Matt Kenseth third. Denny Hamlin and David Reutimann rounded out the top five.

Busch won his second race of the season and moved into second place in the standings behind seventh-place finisher Kevin Harvick.

Joe Gibbs Racing has been putting heat on Johnson's four-year reign atop the standings. JGR drivers Busch and Hamlin have been two of the hottest drivers over Johnson's seven-race winless stretch and expect to contend for the title over the final 10 races.

"We're just getting started," owner Joe Gibbs said.

Busch became the second driver to win the Cup and Nationwide races in the same weekend at Dover. Harry Gant did it in September 1991.

"We weren't the best at the beginning, but we were definitely a top-four car today," Busch said. "Awesome stops on pit road. I think they won the race today." □

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NHL Playoffs

Blackhawks beat Sharks

2-1 in Game 1

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Sports Writer

SAN JOSE, Calif. – Antti Niemi might finally be putting to rest all those questions about whether he is the Chicago Blackhawks' weak link.

Niemi made 44 saves, Dustin Byfuglien scored the tiebreaking goal with 6:45 remaining in regulation to help Chicago get off to a fast start for a change this postseason by beating the San Jose Sharks 2-1 Sunday in the opener of the Western Conference final.

"He's been good for us all year," forward Kris Versteeg said. "Everyone seemed to be doubting him except us. We're confident in him. We have to give him a lot more help than we did tonight."

Niemi stopped almost everything that came his way in his first career game against the Sharks, helping Chicago kill four of five power plays including a 6-on-4 advantage in the closing minute. That snapped a run of four straight series-opening losses for Chicago.

Patrick Sharp also scored for the Blackhawks, who will try to take a 2-0 series lead on Tuesday night in San Jose. Chicago improved to 6-1 on the road this postseason.

"It's something we really wanted to establish this series," defenseman Brent Seabrook said. "We wanted to come out hard and get the first win of the series and try to play from ahead for a change."

Rookie Jason Demers scored the lone goal for San Jose, which fell to 0-4 at home all-time in two trips to the conference final.

The Sharks managed a first-

period power play goal against Niemi and nothing else.

"There was some times we thought it was going in, but he did a good job," Sharks forward Joe Pavelski said. "He's going to stop it for the most part. We just have to the shots coming."

The matchup between the top two seeds in the Western Conference featured fast skating and numerous scoring chances but few goals as Niemi and Evgeni Nabokov were up to the task for most of the game.

With the score tied at 1 in the third period, the Blackhawks found a way to break through. Captain Jonathan Toews won an offensive zone faceoff from Joe Thornton and Patrick Kane got the puck off the boards to Byfuglien. The talk going into the series was about how the Sharks would contend with the 257-pound Byfuglien in front of the net. But he showed he can also be dangerous from further out.

Byfuglien beat Nabokov with wrist shot from the slot for his fifth goal of the postseason, giving Chicago its first lead of the night.

"I feel like I'm at the top of my game right now," Byfuglien said. "I think there's improvements to be made. Just got to keep working and just getting in front, you know, getting dirty."

Thornton's line with Patrick Marleau and Dany Heatley was on the ice for both Chicago goals. Thornton plus-minus rating this postseason fell to minus-8, but coach Todd McLellan had no regrets using his star center for a key defensive zone faceoff against

Chicago Blackhawks center Patrick Sharp, right, is congratulated by teammates after scoring against the San Jose Sharks during the second period of Game 1 of the NHL hockey Western Conference finals, Sunday, May 16, 2010, in San Jose, Calif.

Associated Press

the opposition's top line.

"Joe has been put in that situation all year," McLellan said. "We played our big players against the other team's top lines. They've been very successful. So I feel very comfortable with them on the ice in that situation."

Niemi made the lead hold up by stopping a few late scrambles in front of his net. San Jose ended the game on a power play after Versteeg was called for tripping Devin Setoguchi with 54.2 seconds to play.

With Nabokov pulled, the Sharks had a 6-on-4 advantage but were unable to convert on their fifth power play chance. Chicago didn't get a single chance with the man advantage.

Chicago got the tying goal midway through the second period when Sharp beat Nabokov with a tricky shot through a screen to cap a 3-on-2 break.

But Niemi was up to the challenge in his first career appearance against the Sharks, making a spectacular sprawling save to rob Ryane Clowe at the side of the net on a power play late in the period.

"I just saw him standing pretty much at the back post with an empty net and I just wanted to get my hand in the way," Niemi said. □



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Scott makes Texas Open first tour title since '08



Adam Scott, of Australia, poses with his trophy after winning the Texas Open golf tournament, Sunday, May 16, 2010, in San Antonio. Scott finished 14 under par.

Associated Press

PAUL J. WEBER,
Associated Press Writer
SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Adam Scott made the Texas Open his first PGA Tour victory in two years, shooting a combined 11-under 133 in a 36-hole finale Sunday to edge Fredrik Jacobson by a stroke. The 2008 Byron Nelson Classic winner, Scott overcame two early bogeys with an eagle on the par-4 17th in his third-round 66, then built his lead with six birdies en route to a closing 67 on the new Oaks Course at TPC San Antonio.

The 29-year-old Australian survived a closing bogey — his only one in the final round — when Jacobson missed a 16-footer from the fringe on No. 18 that would've forced a playoff.

Scott finished at 14-under 274 and earned \$1,098,000 for his seventh tour victory.

He got the win in the tournament's first season at the Oaks Course, designed by his countryman Greg Norman, who sent a message to Scott afterward.

"He's glad I like the course,"

Scott said.

At least he did Sunday.

Scott rallied from four strokes back — and bogeys on two of his first three holes — before settling down in the long final day. More than 3 inches (76 millimeters) of rain had washed out Friday's round, setting up Sunday's 36-hole marathon.

Ernie Els, Aaron Baddeley and Jimmy Walker were equal third at 12 under. Els, the FedEx Cup leader, followed a third-round 69 with a 68.

Baddeley also entered the day four back and shot 67 and 68. Walker had rounds of 70 and 69 and ended up with a career-best finish on the tour.

Tim Petrovic and tour rookie Garth Mulroy were 11 under.

Scott got stronger as the day wore on. His only blemish of the final round was on the par-5 18th — and it nearly cost him.

Scott's approach plopped in the greenside bunker, but he recovered to set up a 6-footer for par. But the putt rolled wide by a half-inch.

"A little bit of a disaster there," Scott said.

Good thing it was just a little one.

Still, it gave give Jacobson a chance.

He started the day three strokes back but shot up the leaderboard with a bogey-free 7-under 65 in the third round. But the 35-year-old Swede couldn't keep up that pace over the final 18.

Jacobson finished with a 70 and another bogey-free round. But he struggled this time to break par, two-putting six of his first nine holes before finally sinking a 7-footer for birdie on No. 12.

Relieved, Jacobson threw his hands up in victory when the putt dropped.

But his final birdie was on the par-4 15th.

Jacobson was unable to replicate the five straight birdies he sank on hole Nos. 14 through 18 in the first round that morning.

"I certainly felt with five holes to go I could do something," Jacobson said. "I had good feelings coming from the morning. I gave myself good looks on all five of them. Just didn't happen."

J.B. Holmes had the 54-hole lead at 12 under but fell apart from the get-go in the final round. His had a double bogey on the par-4 first — overshooting the green for the second time of the day — then bogeyed four of his next seven holes.

Holmes was 4 over in the final round and finished 8 under.

Scott got his first top-10 finish this year, two weeks after he missed the cut at Quail Hollow and tied for 26th at The Players Championship.

Scott's last three PGA Tour victories have come in Texas. He won the Houston Open in 2007 and the Byron Nelson two years ago.

Although Scott hadn't won on

the U.S. tour for two years, he captured his first tournament on home soil as a professional in December when he won the Australian Open. It came at the end of a poor year in which his world ranking had dropped from No. 3 to just outside the top 70. □



American athlete Tyson Gay, left, poses for pictures with former Olympic champion Tommie Smith after winning the Men's 200m in a time of 19.41 seconds on a specially constructed straight track in central Manchester, England, Sunday, May 16, 2010. Gay's time beat the record set 44 years ago by the 1968 200m Olympic champion, Tommie Smith.

Associated Press

Gay breaks 44-year-old mark in straight 200 meters

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — American sprinter Tyson Gay broke a 44-year-old world mark for the 200 meters on a straight track.

Gay ran 19.41 seconds into a slight headwind Sunday on a specially constructed track in Manchester, shaving 0.09 off Tommie Smith's mark set in May 1966 at San Jose, California.

Smith was at the Great City Games to watch the 27-year-old Gay beat his time, which isn't an official world record because athletic's governing body only recognizes 200s run around a curve.

"Going into the race I knew it was going to be tough to beat the record," Gay said. "It was pretty hard for the first 100 meters or so and I was extremely tired." □

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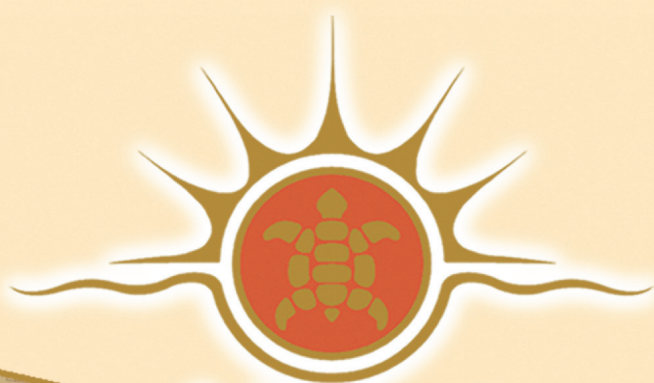
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Nadal beats Federer in Madrid Masters final

GUY HEDGE COE

Associated Press Writer

MADRID (AP) — Rafael Nadal won a record 18th Masters title by beating Roger Federer 6-4, 7-6 (5) in the Madrid final on Sunday.

Nadal reversed the result of the 2009 final — the last time the pair had played against each other — to win in Madrid for a second time and move one Masters title ahead of Andre Agassi and two in front of Federer.

Nadal, who will return to No. 2 in Monday's rankings, is 15-0 on clay this season, having also won in Monte Carlo and Rome to become the first player to win all three titles in the same season. He has lost only two sets during that run.

"The most important thing is winning at home; winning in Madrid is a dream. After that, I think about the ranking," said Nadal. "Against this opponent, it's always going to be difficult."

Nadal dodged questions about being the favorite at the French Open.

"I'm very happy with everything so far this year. I think I've returned to my top form and that's the most important thing for me," Nadal said. "Am I favorite to win at Roland Garros? I was last year

and I lost."

Both players dropped serve early in the first set before the second-seeded Nadal broke decisively to lead 4-3.

In the second set, Nadal claimed a tightly contested tiebreaker after two breaks of serve each.

"I wasn't able to defend my title here today but I thought Rafa played an incredible clay-court season," said Federer. "I'm looking forward to Paris now. I'm happy with my clay-court game."

Both players struggled to hold serve early on — Nadal broke on his third attempt to go 2-1 up, before the Swiss player broke back.

Nadal, who won in Madrid in 2005, went 4-3 up when Federer sent a backhand into the net after saving four break points.

Federer should have broken in the next game when Nadal's double-fault took the score to 15-40.

Solid serving from the Spaniard kept him in that game and he punched the air in celebration as he went on to take the set with a perfectly judged crosscourt forehand.

With Federer's forehand misfiring, he hit the net to lose serve at the start of the second set before breaking back

immediately.

A crosscourt backhand on the run gave Nadal another opportunity to break at 2-2 and he took it with a passing shot down the line.

Serving at 4-3, Nadal slipped over when retrieving a shot and Federer slotted the ball away for 0-30.

The Swiss created a break chance with an audacious drop shot and broke to stay in the match when Nadal hit the ball long.

Nadal brought the Manolo Santana Stadium to its feet when he held serve for 5-5 by ending a fierce baseline rally with a crosscourt dropshot.

In the tiebreaker, a Federer backhand into the net gave Nadal two match points on his own serve and the Swiss saved the first with a stinging forehand winner before mis-hitting on the second to hand his rival the title.

"It's nice that we have had a chance to play each other again and live up to the expectations with a good match, and it was a nice performance from both of us," Federer said. "He comes up with incredible stuff. He's Rafa Nadal after all."

In the women's final, Venus Williams was beaten 6-2, 7-5 by unseeded Aravane Rezai of France.



Rafael Nadal poses on the podium with his trophy after defeating Roger Federer from Switzerland at the final match of the Madrid Open Tennis Tournament in Madrid, on Sunday, May 16, 2010.

Associated Press

Rezai rallied from two breaks down in the second set to win her third career title in her sixth final.

The French player was making her second appearance at the Madrid Masters and came in having lost in the first round in Barcelona and the second round in Rome. She ended up dropping only one set throughout the tournament.

"It's been the best week of my career," Rezai said.

"I played very well and I'm very proud of myself because it was a very tough tournament and there were a lot of players here — everyone was here — so I just believed in myself."

The fourth-seeded Williams was seeking to win a 10th clay-court title and improve on her 12-1 record on the surface this year.

It was the 70th final of her career, and she will rise to No. 2 in the rankings on Monday for the first time since May 2003.

"I probably wasn't at the highest of my energy today. I felt a little slower than normal, but I tried hard and I feel very good about my game," Williams said. "Sometimes you run into a player who's red hot; they hit every shot, they don't miss — and credit to them." □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Phelps swim to victory in 200 IM at Charlotte



Michael Phelps acknowledges the fans' applause following the medal ceremony for the Men's 100 meter butterfly at the 2010 Charlotte UltraSwim Friday, May 14, 2010, in Charlotte, N.C. Phelps won the event with a time of 52:41.

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Michael Phelps left Charlotte UltraSwim with three medals in four individual events, one narrow loss, and a new sense of motivation. Phelps wrapped up the

Sorensen wins stage; Vinokourov retains lead

TERMINILLO, Italy (AP) — Danish rider Chris Sorensen won the first uphill finish of the Giro d'Italia on Sunday, and Alexandre Vinokourov maintained the overall leader's pink jersey.

Taking advantage of an early breakaway, Sorensen clocked 4 hours, 50 minutes, 48 seconds in the eighth stage, a 117-mile leg from Chianciano Terme to Terminillo.

The stage ended with a 10-mile climb to the Terminillo ski resort in central Italy, with the upper section of the climb shrouded in fog.

Sorensen was part of a group of riders who broke away after 47 miles, gaining a

weekend by winning the 200-meter individual medley, an event he hadn't competed in since last summer, by holding off Eric Shanteau at Mecklenburg Aquatic Center. "I wanted to separate myself from Eric in that first 100 meters," said Phelps, who finished second Saturday in the 100-meter backstroke to Nicholas Thoman. "We were going to see where we were in terms of fitness right there, and we found out in the first 25 meters. "This weekend gives me motivation, more than anything," said Phelps, who called his weekend "not great, not terrible." "I'll be the first to admit my training isn't where it should be."

Multiple world-record holder Ryan Lochte beat Italian Sebastiano Ranfagni and American Matt Grevers to capture the 200 backstroke. "I haven't raced this much in a long time," Lochte said. "It's

just about getting up on the blocks, no matter what kind of environment or competition, and giving your best. That's what it call comes down to."

Emily Brunemann won the women's 1,500 long-course freestyle, beating Olympian Chloe Sutton by 6 seconds. Josef Kinderwater won the 800 freestyle in 8 minutes, 12.46 seconds.

Peter Vanderkaay, after winning two individual events and a relay, and finishing second in two relays, captured the USA Swimming Grand Prix Series title and its \$20,000 purse.

Justine Mueller edged Dagny Knutson in the 200 IM while 15-year-old Missy Franklin beat Elizabeth Beisel in the 200 meter backstroke. Franklin, who at age 12 made her first Olympic trial cuts, wound up higher on the podium than she expected Sunday as the youngest swimmer in the event. □



Denmark's Chris Sorensen reacts through the fog as he crosses the finish line to win the eighth stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race, from Chianciano Terme to Terminillo, Italy, Sunday, May 16, 2010.

Associated Press

three-minute advantage at one point.

Simone Stortoni of Italy finished second, 30 seconds behind, and Xavier Tondo

Volpini of Spain was third, 36 seconds back.

Vinokourov crossed eighth with the other race favorites, 56 seconds behind. □



Britain's Mark Cavendish, center, of HTC-Columbia, winner of Stage 1 of the Tour of California cycling race, stands with second-place Juan Jose Haedo, left, of Argentina and Saxo Bank, and third-place Alexander Kristoff, of Norway and BMC, in Sacramento, Calif., Sunday, May 16, 2010. Date: 5/16/2010 9:36 PM

Associated Press

Cavendish wins first stage of Tour of California

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — British rider Mark Cavendish surged to the front at the finish to claim the opening stage of the Tour of California on Sunday.

Cavendish, a 10-time Tour de France stage winner who rides for the American HTC-Columbia team, was timed in 4 hours, 4 minutes and 46 seconds in the 104.2-mile road stage from Nevada City.

Juan Jose Haedo (Saxo Bank) of Argentina was second and Norwegian Alexander Kristoff (BMC) was third.

"It's seven weeks to go for the Tour de France and it gave the team confidence," Cavendish said. "We should get the same results as we did last year at the Tour de France."

With his 10-second bonus time for his win, Cavendish will have a 4-second race lead over Haedo and a 6-second margin over Kristoff for the second stage Monday from Davis to Santa.

Three-time defending race winner Levi Leiphiemer (RadioShack) and teammate Lance Armstrong, the seven-time Tour de France winner, finished safely in the main field in the same time as the winner.

Five riders, including former world titlists Tom Boonen (Quick Step) of Belgium and Stuart O'Grady of Australia crashed on the final circuit. But all of the fallen riders finished and were given the same time as the winner.

Cavendish, who claimed his third career stage in the race's five-year history, stayed behind several teammates as the field of 128 riders approached the beginning of the three final circuits around the State Capitol. □

Athletes want Government to reconsider giving away world champion training ground

"I Love Aruba" tries to save Fisherman's Huts



FISHERMAN'S HUTS — Concerned citizens continued their plight to help save the last of stretch of Palm Beach. The group that calls itself 'I Love Aruba, Save Fisherman's Huts' hopes to convince the government and developers not to build a new hotel at the popular windsurfing spot, Fisherman's Huts. The Venezuelan developer Desarrollos Hotelco, plans to put down a hotel that is intended to be operated by Ritz Carlton.

For years, environmentalists protested against the construction of a new hotel at the site, and even collected over 3000 signatures in the community which was send to the headquarters of Ritz Carlton. For a while it seemed the action worked, yet last year, before the change in administration here, Desarrollos Hotelco was able to get the lease land from the previous government, despite opposition of the party now in



power. Prime Minister Mike Eman made a statement that even though his party was dead set against the construction of a new hotel at the particular site, his hands are tight and a possible reversal of the lease land contract could lead to a major lawsuit against Aruba that could end up costing close to the sum of 100 million dollars. This is a risk Aruba cannot afford to take, Prime Minister Eman stated.

But, now other citizens supported by the same environmentalists who years ago tried to block the construction of the hotel at the site, decided there is still time. They consider that Desarrollos Hotelco did not act in good faith when it signed the lease agreement in secret, along with the previous government, despite the fact all knew that most in Aruba were against a new hotel. The opposition is not toward a Ritz Carlton, but to a construction of any new hotel building at the area, considered as one of the best wind and kite surf locations in the world. And even more serious, one of, if not the last windsurf spots in Aruba.

The group wants politicians to

be more determined and act upon the wishes of the majority on the island that voted in mass against these plans. In addition, studies indicate that any new hotel could have a negative social/economic impact for Aruba and therefore,

no private interest can prevail over general well being of the island. Any judge will first look at the general wellbeing of a nation over the private interest of a company, they argue. □



Lori & Craig are wed at the Radisson



PALM BEACH – Over fifty family members and friends attended the elegant beach side wedding of Lori McNutty and Craig Stevens, at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa. Robert Gibson from Aruba officiated over the blessings, and the sand ceremony symbolizing their coming together as one. While the bride and groom are from NY, their wedding guests traveled

from as far as Boston, India and South Africa to attend the festivities.

The groom serenaded his beautiful bride after saying I do, and as they took their first walk down the aisle as husband and wife they were

greeted by bubbles flying up into the sky.

A cocktail reception followed the ceremony, catered by the resort culinary team under the direction of its bridal specialist Lisa Dammerman. □



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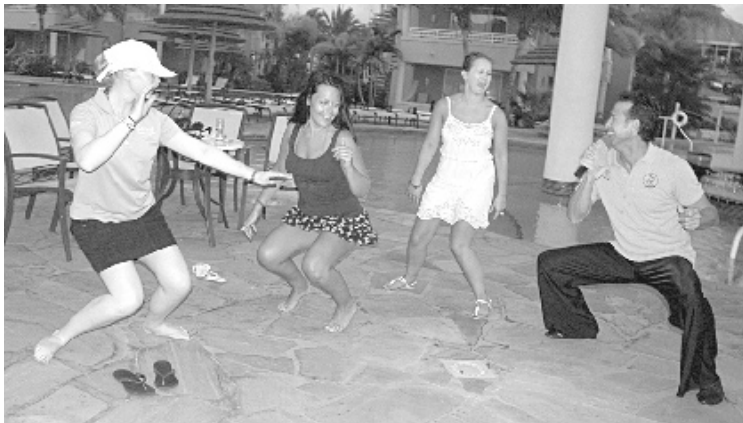
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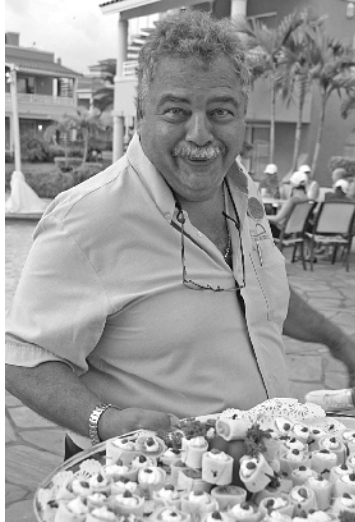
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Salsa & Merenge Clinic organized for TUI VIP Educational Fam Trip



DIVI LINKS – A group of more than 30 travel agents from the UK enjoyed a fantastic Salsa & Merenge Clinic given by the Pachanga Dance school at the infinity pool of Divi Links, immediately after the group's Happy Hour Golf

Clinic on the emerald-green nine-hole golf course. Gerald Griffith, the resort's General Manager served as party host, making sure his guests were totally entertained, over endless cocktails and tasty hors d'oeuvres.



Franklyn from the Pachanga Dance School gave a short overview of the Latin dance history, then four of the school's top instructors took the group through basic steps, covering Aruba-style dance and Miami-style moves, slowly revving the music up, until they had everyone dancing like a pro by sunset.

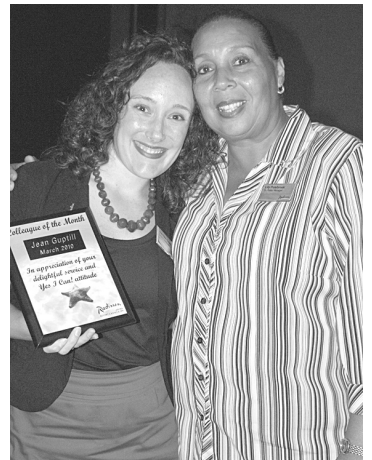
The final segment of the clinic featured a competition, crowning the group's Salsa Queen who received a bottle of wine, for her stellar performance. Pictured here the fun they had!



The Radisson awards distinctions for the first quarter of 2010



Manager Rob Smith, and Director of Human Resources Glenn Farro shared the honor of reading out the nominations. For January, Roland Riddertaat won top honors as the chef who made the Fund Raiser for Haiti super-successful. His Oyster Soup sold out, and was a true hit, as Aruba mobilized to collect donations for the badly stricken neighboring island. For February Hendrik Webb of Engineering, who is a landscaping initiative-taker, was praised for his singular focus on work, and for March, Jean Guptill, who works for



the resort's head office in Ft. Lauderdale, ran off with the Colleague of the Month

PALM BEACH – The Grand Caribbean Ballroom was transformed into as associate restaurant as the Star Team of the quarter was celebrated over delicious barbeque lunch. The idea was to involve as many associates as possible in the award ceremony and hosting the festive luncheon in the ballroom contributed to high attendance, of an engaged audience.

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distinction for her tremendous "Yes I Can" attitude and her willingness to tackle anything from accounting to administration.

Other finalists for January included Adriana Morris, Margarita Vries, Thelma Franken and Dolph Paesch; for February, Hector Wilson, Ligia Lacle, Alejandro Cuzcano and Jacky Leyba; and for March Estella Rodriguez, Thelma Franken, Amarillys Gomez and Vigilio Flores.

Pictured here, recognized for their stellar performance, the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa associates.

The resorts also used the opportunity to celebrate a number of five, ten, fifteen, and twenty year anniversaries, and important career landmarks. □

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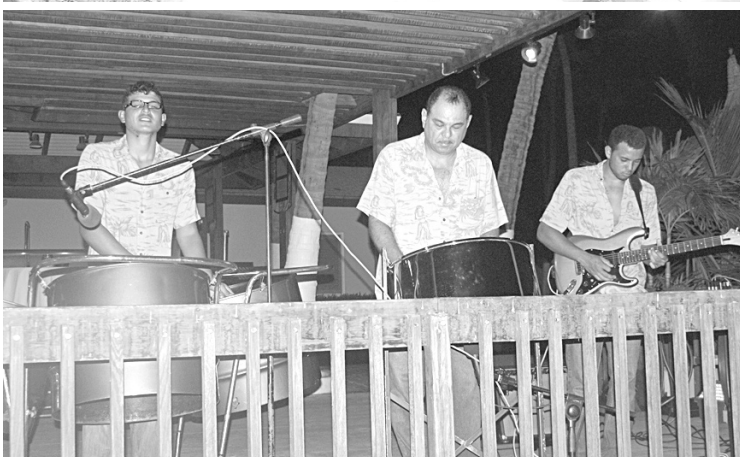
TUI VIP Educational Fam Trip Gets a Farewell Party Under the Stars



DIVI DIVI -- The Sandpiper's Bar on the far end of the beach at Divi Aruba All Inclusive, welcomed the participants of TUI's VIP Educational Fam Trip, for their farewell party, their final function on the island.

Over 30 travel agents from the UK, spent a week in Aruba wine and dined by Divi Mega Resorts. Their last night was extra special, as the party on the beach featured steel band music, a delicious dinner buffet and freshly cracked coconuts laced with rum, to fuel the party's level of excitement.

The group was hosted by Lisa Nieuwmeier Divi & Tamarijn Reservations Manager and Marin Bijl, General Manager. Having visited the interactive buffet, TUI VIP guests dined on the beach, toes in the sand, in one of the loveliest places in the world, vowing to return to the UK to sell and promote the island enthusiastically, having experienced it all first-hand during their magical week here. □



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HUMAN HINTS

Don't Get Stuck In The Physicality

For the most part, people are aware only of the physical aspect of the world. The three dimensional realm is all we know. It is the realm in which we define reality. We are now coming to understand that the physical realm is an illusion, a movie representing only a tiny portion of our full expression.

When we see the physical illusion for what it is, we become aware of the as-

pects of ourselves that exist beyond three dimensions, and the physical body becomes threatened.

The idea that there is something beyond the physical is ultimately a leap of faith, which our physical bodies don't like. Your body will try to keep you in the illusion.

One trick the body will play is to encourage you to get caught up in the physicality of things.

When you place impor-

tance on three dimensional things, you are caught in the physicality. We forget that three dimensional things only represent what is inside of us. The thing itself is meaningless, except for the part of ourselves that it represents.

When we realize that it's what is inside us that is important, the physical thing that represents what is inside us loses importance. We can't lose our genuine selves, no matter what happens to the physical representation.

We get caught in the physicality because we don't have faith in our own beliefs. We think the physical is real because of our senses and emotions, which is all we've ever know to be real.

Enlightenment leads to Abundance, and it's alright to have physical things, just be aware of your emotions aroused by physical things. Don't let physical things own you. Enjoy the physical while not becoming attached to it. It is alright to keep momentums of the past, just don't cling to them for the sake of holding onto the physicality.

Release your emotional attachment to physical things by trusting that your Self beyond three dimensions is in Unity with Infinite Abundance, and that the beyond-physical aspect of your Self will make sure you are provided for in the physical. Trusting in your ability to provide for yourself will give you freedom and sovereignty.

You don't have to give away everything you own, just release your emotional connection to what you have. It can be fun and empowering to surround yourself with physical representations of your self, and use three dimensional symbols to empower your manifestation abilities.

We're in the physical, so dive in and enjoy...with moderation and emotional detachment from the outcome. Quite a challenge.

There is a subtle difference between you owning your physical stuff and your physical stuff owning you. The subtle shift in your attitude toward your things will cause a dramatic transformation in your Personal Power and Freedom.

Embrace the physical, but don't let it have power over you. Your definition of your Self is within your Self. Physical things that you like are nothing more than representations of the way you see yourself.

Until Tomorrow...

~**Quentin Danziger**

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has studied many avenues of alternative thought.

Human Hints Daily is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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PG-13	THE LOSERS	daily: 5:15 7:30 9:45	matinee: 12:45 3:00	late show: 12:00	
PG-13	DEATH AT A FUNERAL	daily: 4:45 7:00 9:15	matinee: 12:15 2:30	late show: 11:30	
PG-13	DE GELUKKIGE HUISVROUW	daily: 4:45 5:45 8:00	matinee: 1:00 3:30	late show: 11:00	
PG-13	IRON MAN 2	daily: 5:30 8:45	matinee: 12:00 2:45	late show: 11:30	

AT PASEO HERENCIA

PG-13	ROBIN HOOD	daily: 4:30 7:45	matinee: 1:00	late show: 11:00	NEW
PG	LETTERS TO JULIET	daily: 6:00 8:30	matinee: 12:45 3:30	late show: 11:00	(Starts Friday May 14) NEW
PG-13	ONDINE	daily: 9:00	matinee:	late show: 11:45	
PG-13	THE BACK-UP PLAN	daily: 4:30 7:00 9:15	matinee: 2:00	late show: 11:45	
PG	HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON	daily: 4:15 6:30	matinee: 1:45	late show:	
PG	FURRY VENGEANCE	daily: 5:45 8:00 10:15	matinee: 1:15 3:30	late show: 12:30	
PG-13	IRON MAN 2	daily: 5:45 8:45	matinee: 12:15 3:00	late show: 11:30	

Matinee: thu - sun | Late show: fri & sat

ALOHA BRIDGE CLUB ARUBA (ABCA)

RESULTS THURSDAY, 13 MAY 2010

A total of 8 pairs attended the morning bridge session at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club Resort.

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

- 1 Stascha Hornix / Henk Berghuizen 66.67 %
- 2 Edith Henriquez / Sheila Lampe 61.11 %
- 3 Geke In 't Veld / Liesbeth van den Ham 53.47 %

RESULTS FRIDAY, 14 MAY 2010

A total of 6 pairs attended the evening bridge session at the Frank Conway Room of Casa del Mar.

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

- 1 Stascha Hornix / Kathy Yarzagaray 70.00 %
 - 2 Maylene and Fred Koopman 56.25 %
 - 3 Sheila Lampe / Edith Henriquez 52.50 %
- Aloha Bridge Club Aruba meets twice a week: on Thursday mornings at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club, starting at 9.00 am and on Friday evenings at the Frank Conway Room of Casa del Mar starting at 7.30 pm. Signing up closes ten minutes before starting time. Fee for guest players: \$ 6.00 or Afl. 10.00 per person.
- The club can also be of assistance in finding single players a bridge partner. Please call Addy Eilers : tel. 582-4953

The French Steakhouse delivers dining under the stars



Eagle Beach – The French Steakhouse at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa prides itself on the elegant dining experience it offers patrons. Reminiscent of a 1950s French café, the fully air-conditioned indoor dining room delights diners with its sparkling china, crisp linen, interesting bread baskets, and hand-painted tiles bordering the walls. A gracious staff, colossal desserts, and live jazz performed by Eddy Samson on piano add the perfect touches.

Yet recently the idea of adding a garden spot to the existing blueprint began to sprout in the creative mind of Executive Chef George Hoek, and he immediately recruited the landscapers to create the intimate, lovely setting. Now patrons have another charming dining option at the French Steakhouse—a tropical alfresco courtyard featuring delicious

cuisine under the stars. Diners can choose from the restaurant's famed "Ooh-La-La" menu offerings, including creative appetizers, soups, salads, seafood dishes, poultry, and the pièce de résistance—South American and USDA beef specialties.

Among other popular appetizers, the chef's Tropical Crab Cakes with pineapple-mango salsa and the Teriyaki-Glazed Seared Duck Breast served with garden greens and balsamic dressing are real crowd-pleasers. The French Onion Soup is true to the restaurant's roots while the Honey-Glazed Salmon Salad winks at the exotic East with a sweet soy dressing.

Seafood dishes range from the fresh Catch of the Day, prepared according to preference, to the amazingly decadent Caribbean Stuffed Shrimp with Crabmeat and Bacon. The tequila and sweet-chili glaze lends

the jumbo shrimp a pure taste of heaven!

Light eaters will find the Jerk-Curried Chicken Skewers and the Lemon-Herb Broiled Chicken very satisfying while meat-lovers should opt for the restaurant's famous South American Certified Beef Churrasco or a juicy USDA beef selection such as the Charcoal NY Sirloin Steak or the Grilled Filet Mignon. Hungrier patrons will appreciate the Ambassador's 5-Course Menu featuring the run of the regular menu's highlights for just \$34.95 per person.

The French Steakhouse at Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa offers a truly unique dining experience—indoor or out—7 days a week from 5:30 PM to 11 PM. For more information, please visit <http://www.manchebo.com/steakhouse/>

Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar reinvents beach cuisine

Eagle Beach – Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa is widely recognized as the home of beach cuisine. Executive Chef George Hoek and his culinary team serve a sun-splashed menu on the oceanfront terrace, raising the restaurant to must-try status. Inspired by American, Mexican, Thai, Jamaican, Cuban, Greek, and Mediterranean kitchens, the menu lists favorite international dishes all served with a tropical, Caribbean flair.

Patrons can choose from a variety of tasty starters, like Wings on Fire and the Fiesta Snack Platter. Pega Pega's Sun-Sational Salads—including the Thai Chicken Salad and the Caribbean



Fruit Symphony—provide a light lunch alternative. From the sandwich board come the Cuban-Pressed Chicken Sandwich, the Grilled Grouper Reuben Sandwich, the Cudarebo Fish Taco, and the Philly Steak Sandwich. Mid-day platters also include vegetarian options and a variety of oversized beef burgers.

Pega Pega's tropical & frozen cocktail list leaves nothing

out. A wide range of frosty beverages—from daiquiris, coladas, margaritas, and fruit-ice-cream smoothies to specialty blends like the Yellow Bird, Sex on the Beach, and the Cabuya—pretty much guarantees the perfect refreshing addition to lunch. A daily happy hour featuring live music is a great way to watch the sunset and kick off the evening.

Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar is open on fabulous Eagle Beach every day from noon to 5 PM for lunch and from 11 AM to 11 PM for drinks. Patrons are cordially welcomed to enjoy the unrivaled views, caring service, and relaxed atmosphere of one of Aruba's oldest beach bars.



Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano introduces Menu Turistico



Eagle Beach -- Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano, located at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa in the heart of the low-rise hotel area, delivers authentic Mediterranean flavors at a reasonable price in a charming alfresco poolside setting.

The restaurant has just introduced Menu Turistico, a 3-course dinner featuring an appetizer, main course, and dessert for just \$19.95 per person, plus 15% service charge.

Patrons may choose between homemade soup and Caesar salad for the starter; between Fettuccini Alfredo, Lasagna Casarecia, Spaghetti alla Bolognese, and any favorite pizza for the main course; and between tiramisu, cheesecake, and ice cream for the sweet finale.

Of course, the regular menu

continues to offer delicious antipasto and salads, like the Calamari Fritti and the Insalati Bistro; hearty Italian soups; fresh fish dishes, including Salmone Affogato in Bianco; pasta dishes, like the Tortellini alla Gorgonzola; pizzas; meat dishes, like the Fileto Di Bue alla Castellana; decadent desserts, such as the Cream-Filled Cannoli; flavorful coffees; and the finest Italian wines.

Executive Chef George Hoek is the resort's much-appreciated culinary expert. He was the recent recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Shoco Award, presented by the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association in collaboration with the Digicel Group. The award is a national award of excellence and Aruba's top professional decoration in the hospitality industry.

Open 7 days a week for breakfast and dinner, Giorgio's makes authentic Italian cuisine a reality on Aruba. Patrons are cordially invited to bring a healthy appetite.



On International Nursing Day

Minister Richard Visser visit the healthcare departments



ORANJESTAD — On the healthcare departments International Nursing Day to thank all those who work in healthcare, for their efforts Minister of Health, Dr. Richard Visser, visited all to giving care to all patients,



everyday. On that day the minister had a busy schedule that started in Oranjestad and ended in San

Nicolas. During his visit all received a rose and a fruit basket. Visser explained that his vision is to come with great



changes that will promote a more healthy country and that in this process he will need the help of all so he can comply with his vision. The pictures show Minister Visser accompanied by healthcare workers.



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Butz, Belair, Maryland. 'MagicLive!...is Hip-Comedy Entertainment, Adam is the ultimate Modern Magician' -Jacque Polak, CBS-TV. Steinfeld sophisticated card-sharp street magic, mixed with grand theater illusions is a visual feast...this will be the highlight of your vacation. -Al Blanchard, mystery novelist, Boston, MA.

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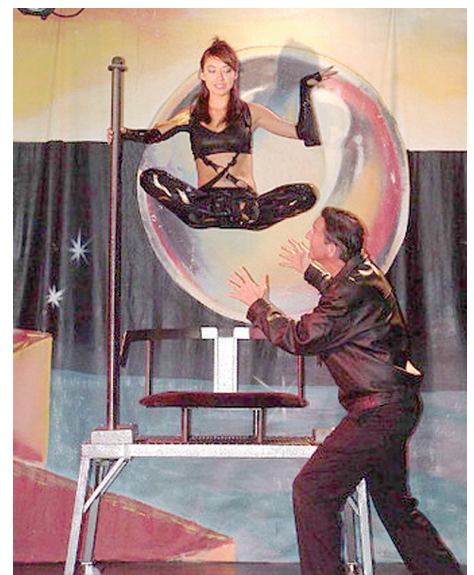
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The Lazy Lizard Crew Goes to the Movies

PALM BEACH – The fantastic associates of the Lazy Lizard at the South Beach Centre reached their April sales goal and as a token of appreciation for their efforts and ambition, were invited for an outing, a leisurely night at the movies.

Marissa Orbillo, Sandy Duffus, Cora Gargantilla, Julie Partosemito, Mel Adams, Josephine Lerio & Lientje Thomas, enjoyed the trip to the cinema, and the sense of satisfaction that accompanies each considerable accomplishment.

Managing Director Jodi Tobman, of Salamander Holdings, reports the race was on until the last minutes of the day, just before closing the night of April 30th, but she was confident, she states, that her prized team would make it to the finish line, triumphant. □



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Alzheimer's Disease: Bad News and Good News

Stephanie Pappas

Seniors hoping to stay sharp in old age are bombarded with recommendations, from doing brainteasers to drinking red wine. But a recent review of research brings sobering news: Currently, there is no good evidence that any supplement, medication, diet or behavior change actually prevents Alzheimer's or other age-related cognitive decline. Such a grim verdict on a much-dreaded disease might seem like cause for despair. It's not, say researchers.

"The bad news is we have nothing that's been proven to prevent Alzheimer's disease," said Cynthia Carlsson, a professor and Alzheimer's researcher at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, who was not on the panel that reviewed the research. "But the good news is we're really at a tremendous point in understanding more about the disease causes."

For instance, evidence is mounting to suggest Alzheimer's damages the brain well before outward mental impairment shows up. So if doctors had tools to identify these pre-symptomatic individuals, they could start early treatments to help at least slow the mental slide.

Ongoing research has pinpointed several biological markers, or indicators that someone is at risk for Alzheimer's (just as blood pressure is a biomarker for risk for cardiovascular disease). These include proteins called

beta-amyloid and tau, found in the spinal fluid during the early stages of the disease. In full-blown Alzheimer's, these proteins form plaques and tangles in the brain which seem to interfere with the functioning of neurons. Exactly what causes the proteins to form isn't known, but variations on a gene called APOE seem to increase the risk.

But when it comes to behavioral risk factors, the evidence isn't as strong.

The panel of 15 independent scientists convened by the National Institutes of Health reviewed 250 human research studies and 25 review papers on Alzheimer's prevention and found that in all cases, the correlations were too weak to confidently point to any risk factor as a cause of Alzheimer's disease or cognitive decline. In most cases, the studies were too small and the associations too limited to draw firm conclusions, said panel head Martha L. Daviglus, a professor of preventative medicine at Northwestern University in Chicago.

"It doesn't mean that if we are going to do a well-designed study with a specific number of people included that the same risk factors are not going to be showing some association," Daviglus said. "But we have to be careful."

Reviewing the research Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia, affecting more than 5 million Americans, according to the

Alzheimer's Association. The disorder is marked by memory loss, confusion and the inability to function independently.

While the NIH-convened panel found no strong evidence for Alzheimer's prevention, the scientists did say some factors showed very limited evidence of protection against Alzheimer's, including omega-3 fatty acids and a diet low in saturated fat and high in vegetables.

A few studies also showed that increased cognitive engagement and physical activity might keep older people sharp and possibly keep their brains clear of dementia, while high blood pressure and diabetes showed associations with cognitive decline.

None of this evidence met the panel's criteria for high-quality evidence, but it bears further study, say Alzheimer's researchers.

"We certainly have evidence," said Arthur Kramer, a neuroscientist at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign who was not on the panel. "The question is, 'How good does it have to be to make recommendations to the public?'"

Strengthening the evidence The panel recommended a commitment to large, long-term studies with standardized measurements of cognitive function. A multi-site Alzheimer's disease registry, like those used in cancer research, could help bring volunteers and researchers together, according to the

report.

Studies also need to start earlier, said panel member Carl Bell, a psychiatrist at the University of Illinois in Chicago. Alzheimer's starts affecting the brain in mid-adulthood, Bell said, and research that starts on older adults won't catch those changes.

"They're looking to prevent it after probably a progression of 10 to 20 years," Bell said. "It's too late then."

Doctors can't yet predict who will develop Alzheimer's just by peering into the individual's genome or spinal fluid. But biomarkers like the APOE gene variation and measurements of beta-amyloid and tau proteins can predict a person's risk for getting the disease, just as high blood pressure predicts risk for cardiovascular disease.

Just as lowering blood pressure would lower one's risk for heart problems, lowering these biomarkers could lower the risk for Alzheimer's. In that way, Alzheimer's biomarkers give researchers a benchmark to see if their treatments are working. Instead of waiting for full-blown Alzheimer's to develop, researchers can measure the effect of their preventative treatments on beta-amyloid or tau in the spinal fluid, said the University of Wisconsin's Carlsson, who studies the effects of cholesterol-lowering statin drugs on Alzheimer's risk.

And while the plaques and tangles on the brain can't be seen, improved brain imaging

can track blood flow in the brain, giving insights into which parts of the brain are experiencing decline. Detailed neuropsychological tests that measure memory and judgment are another common research tool.

Continuing disease research The kinds of studies recommended by the panel are happening, said Laurie Ryan, the Program Director of Alzheimer's Disease Clinical Trials at the National Institute on Aging.

"We actually have a number of trials in the works looking at things like exercise and cognitive training," Ryan said.

Pharmaceutical industry researchers are putting resources into possible preventative drug treatments, she said. The NIH is also working in partnership with a number of private firms on the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative, a five-year study looking at changes in brain structure and function in 400 people with cognitive impairment, 200 people with Alzheimer's and 200 healthy individuals. The data from that project is available online to researchers worldwide, Ryan said.

Meanwhile, studies on preventative factors from cholesterol-lowering drugs to the benefits of social engagement are ongoing, and the preliminary results provide reason for hope, said Ryan. Several studies may provide answers in as little as a few years, she said.

"There's a lot of data that really does suggest that we want to be looking at these lifestyle interventions to help people think about a healthy aging brain," Ryan said. "Diet, exercise, staying socially active, staying engaged with people, those things are going to improve your quality of life no matter what."

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Eyes flashing, robot conducts wedding in Tokyo



Bride Satoko Inoue, 36, puts a ring on a finger of her groom Tomohiro Shibata 42, as I-Fairy, a four-foot tall seated robot, wearing a wreath of flowers, directs their wedding ceremony at a Tokyo restaurant Sunday, May 16, 2010. The wedding was the first time a marriage had been led by a robot, according to manufacturer Kokoro Co.

(AP Photo/Itsuo Inoue)

Study: Cell phone-brain cancer link inconclusive

By FRANK JORDANS,
Associated Press Writer

GENEVA — Cell phone users worried about getting brain cancer aren't off the hook yet.

A major international study into the link between cell phone use and two types of brain cancer has proved inconclusive, according to a report due to be published in a medical journal Tuesday.

A 10-year survey of almost 13,000 participants found most cell phone use didn't increase the risk of developing meningioma — a common and frequently benign tumor — or glioma — a rarer but deadlier form of cancer.

There were "suggestions" that using cell phones for more than 30 minutes each day could increase the risk of glioma, according to the study by the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer. But the authors added that "biases and error prevent a causal interpretation" that would directly blame radiation for the tumor.

Longer call times appeared to pose a greater risk than the number of calls made, the study found.

Among the factors that weren't examined were the effects of using handsfree devices during calls or the risk of having cell phones close by while not making calls — such as in a pocket, or next to the bed at night.

The authors acknowledged possible inaccuracies in the survey from the fact that participants were asked to remember how much and on which ear they used their mobiles over the past decade. Results for some groups showed cell phone use actually appeared to lessen the risk of developing cancers, something the researchers described as "implausible." □

By JAY ALABASTER,
Associated Press Writer

TOKYO — Almost everyone stood when the bride walked down the aisle in her white gown, but not the wedding conductor, because she was bolted to her chair.

The nuptials at this ceremony were led by "I-Fairy," a 4-foot (1.5-meter) tall seated robot with flashing eyes and plastic pigtails. Sunday's wedding was the first time a marriage had been led by a robot, according to manufacturer Kokoro Co.

"Please lift the bride's veil," the robot said in a tinny voice, waving its arms in the air as the newlyweds kissed in front of about 50 guests. The wedding took place at a restaurant in Hibiya Park in central Tokyo, where the I-Fairy wore a wreath of flowers and directed a rooftop ceremony. Wires led out from beneath it to a black curtain a few feet

(meters) away, where a man crouched and clicked commands into a computer. Japan has one of the most advanced robotics industries in the world, with the government actively supporting the field for future growth. Industrial models in factories are now standard, but recently Japanese companies are making a push to inject robots into everyday life.

Honda makes a walking child-shaped robot, and other firms have developed them to entertain the elderly or play baseball. Kokoro, whose corporate goal is to "touch the hearts of the people," also makes giant dinosaur robots for exhibitions and lifelike android models that can smile and laugh. The company is a subsidiary of Sanrio Co., which owns the rights to Hello Kitty and other Japanese characters.

"This was a lot of fun. I think that Japanese have a strong sense that robots are our friends. Those in the robot industry mostly understand this, but people mainly want robots near them that serve some purpose," said bride Satoko Inoue, 36, who works at manufacturer Kokoro. "It would be nice if the robot was a bit more clever, but she is very good at expressing herself," said new husband Tomohiro Shibata, 42, a professor of robotics at the Nara Institute of Science and Technology in central Japan.

The I-Fairy sells for about 6.3 million yen (\$68,000) and three are in use in Singapore, the U.S. and Japan, according to company spokeswoman Kayako Kido. It has 18 degrees of motion in its arms, and mainly repeats preprogrammed movements and sounds. □

Tibetans' Genes Help Them Thrive at High Altitudes

How are Tibetans able to thrive in the oxygen-thin high altitudes of the Tibet highlands when non-residents find the environment hard to endure? It's all in the genes, researchers say. Thousands of years of natural selection have allowed Tibetan highlanders to evolve 10 unique oxygen-processing genes that help them avoid the sometimes life-threatening complications that can accompany high-altitude exposure, a new study has found.

The study is published online May 13 in ScienceExpress, and is the product of a cooperative effort launched by American and Chinese researchers from the University of Utah School of Medicine and Qinghai University Medical School.

The oxygen-deprived environs of high-altitude regions can give rise to severe lung and brain complications, the authors noted. Even professional mountaineers are at risk for experiencing "polycythemia," in which the body manufactures too many red blood cells in reaction to oxygen deprivation.

Swelling of the lungs and brain, along with high blood pressure of the lung vessels can trigger respiratory failure, which can be deadly.

Yet the research team noted that Tibetan highlanders do not experience any such

medical hardships.

To find out why, the investigators analyzed DNA samples from 31 Tibetan residents of a village located at 14,720 feet above sea level.

After comparing the villagers DNA with samples taken from people living in lower elevations nearby, the team was able to isolate 10 specific genes that were found only among the high-elevation residents.

Although adaptation to high-altitude living has been observed in other regions including the Andes Mountains in South America and parts of Ethiopia, the evolved genes found among the Tibetan highlanders appear to be unique to them.

To date, the researchers have linked two of the 10 genes directly to blood-borne oxygen transportation. But they note that further study is needed, with an eye toward more genes that could play a role in high-elevation protection.

"What's unique about Tibetans is they don't develop high red blood cells counts," Dr. Josef T. Prchal, study co-author and a hematologist and professor of internal medicine at the University of Utah, said in a news release. "If we can understand this, we can develop therapies for human disease." □

Turquía y Brasil logran avance nuclear con Irán

TEHERAN (Reuters) - Turquía dijo el domingo que Irán había acordado un pacto de intercambio de combustible nuclear que podría ayudar a terminar el enfrentamiento diplomático de Teherán con Occidente por su programa atómico. Los detalles completos del entendimiento no fueron divulgados inmediatamente por los responsables turcos y brasileños que mediaban en la disputa de Irán con las potencias globales, que sospechan que Teherán desarrolla una bomba atómica en secreto.

El ministro turco de Relaciones Exteriores dijo que podría hacerse un anuncio formal el lunes, después de cualquier revisión final de los presidentes de Brasil e Irán y del primer ministro



Imagen de archivo del primer ministro turco, Tayyip Erdogan, en una visita a Atenas. Mayo 15 2010. El primer ministro turco, Tayyip Erdogan, voló a Teherán el domingo buscando sellar un acuerdo con Irán sobre un intercambio de combustible nuclear que podría ayudar a finalizar una disputa con Occidente por su programa atómico. REUTERS/Kostas Tsiron

turco. “Sí, se ha alcanzado de negociaciones”, dijo el ministro de Exteriores cuando le preguntaron si después de casi 18 horas turco Ahmet Davutoglu a habría un acuerdo.

Más temprano, el primer ministro turco, Tayyip Erdogan, voló a Teherán para unirse al presidente brasileño, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, quien ha estado negociando con funcionarios iraníes en lo que autoridades occidentales y rusas han dicho que posiblemente sea la última oportunidad de Irán para evitar más sanciones de Naciones Unidas.

Un acuerdo respaldado por la ONU ofreció a Irán en octubre enviar a Rusia y Francia 1.200 kilogramos de su uranio de bajo enriquecimiento -suficiente para fabricar una bomba nuclear si es purificado- para convertirlo en combustible que sería usado en un reactor de investigación en Teherán. □

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Monthly Newsletter

May 2010 Aruba



Greg Asadoorian, a professional piano bar entertainer for 10 years, Greg Asadoorian delivers an energetic rock 'n' roll show that gets the audience into the act. With accents of harmonica and percussion to his dexterous piano playing and versatile vocals, Greg is a true one-man band. In addition to a repertoire of crowd favorites, he also offers an R-rated, adults-only late night show.

Greg has enjoyed playing all over his native New England and was ranked among the highest rated piano bar entertainers during a five-year stint with Carnival Cruise Lines.

Wednesday night is Ladies Champagne Night, from 8:00 till midnight, champagne by the glass at \$4.00, ladies only. Bottle service also available.



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